



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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1 Jul 2025

Our reference: FOI DA6128

I am responding to your request for information received 27 June 2025. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention



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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request information regarding the use and uptake of digital pathology within your trust's pathology services. Specifically, we are seeking information on both slide digitisation and slide reading (including AI-based systems), as well as the extent of digital adoption within your histopathology services.

Slide digitisation

Question 1: Please list the suppliers or companies currently used (if any, else respond with "Not used") to digitise pathology slides within your trust's pathology services (i.e. for converting glass slides into whole-slide images):

- a) Supplier name (Philips, Leica, Hamamatsu, Roche Diagnostics, etc.)
- b) Model(s) installed
- c) Number of scanners deployed
- d) Year of deployment
- e) Method of acquisition (capital purchase, lease or managed service contract)
- f) Was the scanner procured directly from the manufacturer or via a reseller? (if known)
- g) If applicable, any external service providers (e.g. outsourced scanning)

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide histopathology services or digital pathology. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Slide reading

Question 2: Please detail any software or AI tools used (if any, else respond with "Not used") for reading, analysing, or supporting the interpretation of digital pathology slides:

- a) Software/company name (Sectra, Paige, Ibex, PathAI, Indica Labs, Aiforia, etc.)
 - b) Product name (if known)
 - c) Use case (e.g. viewer only, AI diagnosis support, automated screening, triage)
 - d) Year of deployment
 - e) Was the software procured directly from the supplier or via a reseller? (if known)
- Provide the above for each software or AI tool used (multiple)**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—



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*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

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Digital adoption

Question 3: For your trust's pathology services, please provide the following information for each of the past 3 financial years (FY 2022/23 [1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023], FY 2023/24 [1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024], and FY 2024/25 [1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025]):

- a) Total number of histopathology glass slides prepared**
- b) Total number of histopathology slides digitalised using whole-slide scanners (if known)**
- c) Total number of unique histopathology cases reported (including all reporting modalities)**
- d) Total number of histopathology cases reported digitally (using screen-based reading/viewers, not by light microscopy)**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and*

(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.

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